MARVEL

EWING
COELLO
D'ARMATA

VENOM WAR

2 OF FIVE

RATED T+

ALCHEMAX HQ.
MEETING IN PROGRESS.

SO, WHAT'S ***IN*** THIS ULTIMATE WEAPON, DRAKE?

THIS ***"K-CHEMICAL"*** OF YOURS...?

WELL, THE ***EXACT*** FORMULA IS PROPRIETARY TO THE ***LIFE FOUNDATION...***

OH, I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO KEEP ***SECRETS,*** CARLTON.

MS. ALLAN ***ALREADY*** KNOWS ABOUT THE ***K-43*** ITERATION. BUT THE NEW SECRET SAUCE IN ***K-44...***

ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH ***LEE PRICE?*** HE GOT ***TOO CLOSE*** TO THE SYMBIOTE SCOURGE... AND PAID WITH HIS ***LIFE.***

AND NOW THOSE TRACES ARE ***OURS***--AND ***INFUSED*** INTO THE ***K-CHEMICAL.***

WE CALL IT THE ***ZOMBIOTE...*** AND A LITTLE OF IT HAS GONE A ***VERY*** LONG WAY.

AFTER WHICH, HIS ***CORPSE*** MET WITH ***ANOTHER*** ALIEN--"THE ***CAPTIVE.***" A NATURAL SYMBIOTE ***PREDATOR.***

IT ***REACTIVATED*** THE SYMBIOTE TRACES IN HIS SYSTEM...AND MADE THEM ***CONTROLLABLE.***

MERIDIUS.
EDDIE BROCK'S BAD FUTURE.

LIZ ALLAN.
ALCHEMAX C.E.O.

...

MR. **MERIDIUS,** WAS IT? THERE'S SOMETHING **VERY FAMILIAR** ABOUT YOU, MERIDIUS.

A FAMILIAR BREED OF **INSANITY...**

YOU DON'T THINK SYMBIOTES CAN BE **MANAGED,** MS. ALLAN?

OH, I **KNOW** THEY CAN. **FLASH THOMPSON--** THE **GOLD STANDARD** IN SYMBIOTE MANAGEMENT--IS A **CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND** OF MINE.

BUT YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A FLASH THOMPSON TO **ME.**

YOU LOOK LIKE SOMEONE WHO MIXED **DEAD SYMBIOTE GOO--**REANIMATED BY A **LITERAL SPACE VAMPIRE--**WITH **TOXIC WASTE.**

IT'S THE **SYMBIOTECHS** ALL OVER AGAIN. JUST TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T TESTED THIS ON **PEOPLE...**

RELAX, MS. ALLAN. I KNOW **EXACTLY** WHAT I'M DOING.

BELIEVE ME, **THIS** IS HOW TO CONTROL THE SYMBIOTES **ONCE AND FOR ALL...**

THE SYMBIOTES ARE OUT OF CONTROL!

...

WHAT TIMING.

THE ZOMBIOTES-- THEY GOT OUT OF THE BASEMENT LAB! EVEN THE HORSE! THEY'RE SPREADING LIKE AN INFECTION!

WE'RE LOCKING DOWN THE BUILDING--ALL PERSONNEL TO THE ROOF! NOW!

THEY GOT OUT...?

A LITTLE EARLY TOO. AH, WELL--GOD LAUGHS WHEN WE MAKE PLANS, EH, CARLTON?

HO, HO, HO.

OPEN WIDE.

WHAT--? GLURRKK!

WHAT THE HELL DID YOU JUST DO...?

YOU SAID YOURSELF--IT'S AN INFECTION.

GRRK... GLLUUHH...

NOW CARLTON HAS IT...

HHSSSS!

RRHHH--

AAAHHH!

...AND SO DO YOU.

NN--
NNNNHHH...

HHHSSS!

THE CONTAGION EVEN SPREADS TO THE *DEAD!*

LIZ--

WAY *AHEAD* OF YOU, DOCTOR STEVEN.

LET'S SEE HOW THESE ZOMBIOTES RESPOND TO A DOSE OF *ANTI-VENOM...*

...COURTESY OF *MISERY!*

MISERY.

HALF ANTI-VENOM, HALF CARNAGE. LIZ ALLAN'S DARK SECRET.

THERE'S A COMPLICATION I WASN'T EXPECTING.

LUCKY FOR ME...

...I BROUGHT MY WATER PISTOL.

FSSSS

AAAHHH!

THAT'S THE ORIGINAL K-CHEMICAL I CAME ACROSS YEARS AGO.

ALREADY THE PERFECT ANTI-SYMBIOTE WEAPON, EVEN BEFORE I DID MY TINKERING.

BUT IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION? NOW THAT YOU'RE DRENCHED IN IT...

...THIS IS GOING TO SKIN MY KNUCKLES A LITTLE.

BYE, LIZ.

KRRSSH

WHAMM

MEETING ADJOURNED.

YOU DO REALISE SHE **SURVIVED** THAT, RIGHT?

I VERY MUCH **DOUBT** IT...

...SORRY, **WHO** ARE YOU AGAIN? AND WHY AREN'T YOU **ZOMBIOTED?**

THAT'S A **VERY** LOUD SUIT...

WELL, I KNOW WHAT I **LIKE.**

AND WHAT I LIKE RUNS **RED.**

AH, YES--OF **COURSE.** "TIME RUNS, THE CLOCK WILL STRIKE, THE DEVIL WILL COME."

IF YOU'VE COME TO **BARGAIN,** I NO LONGER NEED THE **HELP.** BUT STAY AND WATCH THE **SHOW,** MISTER RED-- **FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE.**

WHY NOT?

IT'S THE BEST SEAT IN THE HOUSE.

VENOM WAR

PART 2

TO BE THE MAN, YOU GOTTA BEAT THE MAN

After **PETER PARKER,** A.K.A. **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN,** revealed that **EDDIE BROCK**'s biggest news story was fraudulent, Eddie's career as a reporter was ruined forever. Depressed and dismayed, Eddie contemplated ending his own life--but an alien **SYMBIOTE** found him, and they joined together and became **VENOM.**

More recently, Eddie ruled the symbiote race as the **KING IN BLACK**, while his son, **DYLAN**, acted as the new Venom! Eddie and Dylan have each witnessed distinct and grim visions of the future convincing each of them that allowing the other to bond to the symbiote would call forth this dark fate. Eddie and Dylan have gone to war for control of Venom.

But the Venom symbiote has been contemplating the destructive consequences of bonding with a host--and fled to Peter's closet to die alone. However, Peter and the symbiote came to an understanding--and joined forces!

TEAM EDDIE

EDDIE BROCK

BEDLAM

TYRO

WILDE

TEAM DYLAN

DYLAN BROCK

TOXIN/ BREN WATERS

RED GOBLIN/ NORMIE OSBORN

FLEXO

SLEEPER

UNDECLARED

SPIDER-MAN/ PETER PARKER

THE VENOM SYMBIOTE

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AND WE'RE BACK! YOU'RE TUNED TO **UNLIMITED CLASS WRESTLING**--IN WHAT'S BECOME A **SYMBIOTE TAKEOVER EDITION!**

A **SECOND** GANG OF SYMBIOTES HAS JUST **INVADED** THE **GARDEN ARENA**--LED BY WHAT APPEARS TO BE **THE SON OF EDDIE BROCK!** AND THAT'S NOT **ALL,** FIGHT FANS!

MY OLD SPARRING PARTNER **SPIDEY** IS CONFRONTING **DADDY BROCK**--ARMED WITH A **VENOMOUS NEW LOOK!**

LET'S LISTEN IN AND SEE WHAT THESE TWO OLD FOES HAVE TO SAY!

WAIT, AM I ON A **HOT MIC?**

I'M GONNA CALL A QUICK **TIME-OUT,** FOLKS.

EDDIE? CAN WE SET A **GROUND RULE** HERE, PAL?

TODAY IS **COSTUME NAMES ONLY,** OKAY...?

"COSTUME NAMES" NEED **COSTUMES.**

YOU'RE **WEARING** MINE.

WHY ARE YOU WEARING **MY SYMBIOTE,** SPIDER-MAN?

PETER... YOU SHOULD LET ME TALK TO HIM.

I KNOW EDDIE--

YEAH. BUT YOU'RE TOO CLOSE, VENOM.

I'VE GOT THIS.

AND I BELIEVE HIM. I AM TOO CLOSE-- TO EDDIE AND TO DYLAN. I CAN'T TRUST MY INSTINCTS.

I CAN'T TRUST MYSELF.

LET PETER EXPLAIN. LET PETER HAVE CONTROL. IT'S BETTER THAT WAY.

IT'S EASIER.

SO HERE IT IS.

SOMEBODY HAD TO PUT VENOM ON, OR HE WAS DEAD-- AND I FIGURED YOU AND DYLAN MIGHT NEED HIM.

GOOD. YOU WERE RIGHT.

I DO NEED--

BUT.

I...WE...HAVE BEEN THROUGH A LITTLE BIT SINCE THEN.* I'VE COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING WITH YOUR OTHER.

AND FROM THAT PLACE OF UNDERSTANDING...I'M GONNA BE HONEST HERE, PAL.

YOU DO NOT LOOK LIKE A SAFE PAIR OF HANDS.

*AS TOLD IN VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN.

AND I'M NOT SURE VENOM'S SO GOOD FOR ***DYLAN*** EITHER.

VENOM SURE DIDN'T THINK SO, AND FROM WHAT I ***OVER-HEARD*** EARLIER, IT'S ***MUTUAL.***

HERE'S ***MY*** IDEA. YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT DYLAN GETTING THE ***SYMBIOTE,*** EDDIE... AND ***HE*** SURE SEEMS WORRIED ABOUT ***YOU...***

...SO MAYBE THE SMART PLAY IS FOR ***ME*** TO KEEP HIM. A ***NEUTRAL THIRD PARTY***--I'LL ROCK THE CHAINS UNTIL YOU GUYS HAVE WORKED THINGS OUT.

I MEAN, THE CHAINS ***ARE*** PRETTY COOL.

LIKE I SAID. YOU'RE ***RIGHT,*** SPIDER-MAN.

WE SHOULD ***DEFINITELY*** STICK TO COSTUME NAMES.

YOU WANT TO BE ***VENOM?***

I'LL BE ***BEDLAM.***

THAT'S NOT GOOD, IS IT?

YEEEAAAHH! THE DYNAMIC DUO!

COME ON IN, EDDIE!

CLUP

BLAR!

AND YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT SOMETHING *ELSE* TOO.

THE CHAINS ARE COOL!

I'VE FOUGHT BEDLAM *BEFORE*. HE'S A CORRUPTED, MADDENED VERSION OF *EDDIE*... AT HIS *MOST VIOLENT*.

NOW THE *HUMAN* EDDIE WEARS HIM LIKE A *SUIT*...MAKING THEM *TWICE AS DANGEROUS*.

BUT I KNOW EDDIE WELL-- EVEN LIKE THIS. I KNOW HIM WELL ENOUGH TO PREDICT HIS MOVES...

CALL IT SYMBIOTE-SENSE.

KROOV

HEY! WATCH THE CAMERAS!

SORRY, CRUSHER.

COMBINED WITH PETER'S REFLEXES...IT'S POETRY IN MOTION. EVERY MOVEMENT FEELS SO EASY.

THWOP

SO RIGHT.

THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M HAPPY.

I'M NOT ENJOYING FIGHTING EDDIE...

UNNH!

AM I?

OH, BOY. THE GROWN-UPS ARE FIGHTING.

SO, WHOSE SIDE ARE WE ON, DYLAN?

ARE WE PICKING SIDES...?

WE CAN'T JUST STAND AROUND AND WATCH, SLEEPER. SPIDEY'S RIGHT-- ISN'T HE?

IF WE DON'T WANT YOUR DAD GETTING HOLD OF VENOM... SPIDEY'S A HERO. HE WAS AN AVENGER AND EVERYTHING.

HIM KEEPING VENOM IS, LIKE... THE BEST-CASE SCENARIO.

TOXIN HAS A POINT. SPIDER-MAN WOULD BE A VERY... RESPONSIBLE HOST.

THERE'S REALLY NO DOWNSIDE TO THIS...

...UNLESS YOU WANT VENOM BACK.

WHEN A PROBLEM COMES ALONG-- YOU MUST THWIP IT!

THWIP

THWIP IT!

GLAKK--

THWIP IT GOOD!

HRR--

UH-OH.

GET--

--OFF!

AAAAHHH!

UNNHH!

SPIDEY!

LONG TIME NO SEE!

HI, CRUSHER.

NOT A GOOD TIME.

JUST A FEW QUICK WORDS FOR ALL THE *UCWF FANS* WATCHING--

I... SAID...

...IT'S NOT A GOOD TIME!

GREAT! NOW *SPIDEY'S* LOSING IT!

EDDIE! BEDLAM! LET'S TURN THE HEAT *DOWN* A LITTLE, OKAY?

MAYBE DON'T REMIND THEM WE'RE HERE

HRRH.

TURN DOWN THE HEAT?

BEDLAM'S GOT A BETTER IDEA

MORE FUEL FOR THE FIRE!

NO--

EDDIE! STOP! I'M A SEPARATE PERSON--

NOT ANY-MORE!

NYAM!

DID YOU JUST...EAT THEM...?

THEY WERE WEAK! NOW THEIR MASS MAKES US BIGGER!

AND THEIR PAIN MAKES US STRONGERRR!

THAT'S *TWISTED*, EDDIE.

PETER'S *ANGER* BUBBLES AND BOILS THROUGH ME. I CAN FEEL IT *BUILDING.*

REAL TWISTED.

OR IS IT MINE?

HOW MUCH OF THIS IS MY INFLUENCE...?

AND SOMEBODY'S GOTTA STRAIGHTEN YOU OUT!

I HAVE RARELY GONE AGAINST MY HOSTS. I DO NOT TAKE CONTROL OF THEM...BUT FROM THEM. THEY ARE MY DIRECTION.

NOW...THERE IS NO DIRECTION. WE ARE OUT OF CONTROL.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

THIS IS GETTING CRAZY, DYLAN. WE GOTTA DO SOMETHING--DO WE HELP SPIDEY OR WHAT?

TALK TO ME, MAN. I KNOW I SAID SOME STUFF BEFORE, BUT...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO HERE. I ADMIT IT, OKAY?

EVEN WITHOUT A SYMBIOTE YOU'RE OUR LEADER.

WE'LL ALL FOLLOW YOU, DYLAN. WHATEVER YOU WANT.

WHATEVER YOU NEED.

...

SLEEPER. FLEXO.

FORM ON ME.

HEY! BOTH OF YOU! STAND DOWN!

HRRGH...?

OR TAKE IT UP WITH THE PRINCE IN BLACK.

HERE COMES A NEW CHALLENGER!

STAY TUNED TO THIS STATION, FIGHT FANS!

THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN NEXT!

IT LOOKS LIKE CHAOS. RANDOM EVENTS SMASHING INTO EACH OTHER--NO ORDER, NO PATTERN.

BUT PEOPLE LIKE US KNOW BETTER, DON'T WE?

THE RANDOM CRUELTY OF THE UNIVERSE CONTAINS AN IMPLICIT ORDER. A BEAUTIFUL DESIGN--IF YOU'RE HIGH UP ENOUGH TO SEE IT.

THE ZOMBIOTE PLAGUE IS SPREADING FAST. SOON, IT'LL BE ENDEMIC--AN UNSTOPPABLE WAVE OF SYMBIOSIS.

AND THAT'S HOW I GET EVERYTHING I WANT--MY OTHER, MY GARDEN--WITHOUT LEAVING THIS CHAIR.

CLETUS WOULD HAVE CALLED THAT BORING.

HE'S NOT HERE...?

LONG STORY.

BUT I THINK THIS VERSION OF YOU IS JUST FASCINATING...

AFTER OUR LAST MEETING, YOU'LL FORGIVE ME FOR NOT BEING THRILLED BY THAT.

WHAT DID BRING YOU HERE, EXACTLY? WHY NOW?

WHAT DO YOU WANT...?

OH, MERIDIUS.

WHAT DOES ANY GOOD SATAN FIGURE WANT?

THE SOUL OF EDDIE BROCK.

GIFT WRAPPED.

CARNAGE.

HERE TO MAKE A DEAL.

TO BE CONTINUED...

VENOM WAR

THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE!

VENOM #37

VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN #2

CHECKLIST

~~08/07/24 VENOM WAR 1~~

~~08/14/24 VENOM 36~~

~~08/14/24 VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 1~~

~~08/21/24 VENOM WAR: CARNAGE 1~~

~~08/21/24 VENOM WAR: VENOMOUS 1~~

~~08/28/24 VENOM WAR: ZOMBIOTES 1~~

09/04/24 VENOM WAR 2

09/04/24 VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 2

09/11/24 VENOM 37

09/11/24 VENOM WAR: WOLVERINE 1

09/11/24 VENOM WAR: CARNAGE 2

09/18/24 VENOM WAR: DEADPOOL 1

09/18/24 VENOM WAR: VENOMOUS 2

09/18/24 VENOM WAR: LETHAL PROTECTORS 1

09/25/24 VENOM WAR: DAREDEVIL 1

09/25/24 VENOM WAR: ZOMBIOTES 2

10/02/24 VENOM WAR 3

10/02/24 VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 3

10/09/24 VENOM 38

10/09/24 VENOM WAR: WOLVERINE 2

10/16/24 VENOM WAR: DEADPOOL 2

10/16/24 VENOM WAR: VENOMOUS 3

10/23/24 VENOM WAR: CARNAGE 3

10/23/24 VENOM WAR: LETHAL PROTECTORS 2

10/30/24 VENOM WAR: ZOMBIOTES 3

10/30/24 VENOM WAR: FANTASTIC FOUR 1

11/06/24 VENOM WAR 4

11/06/24 VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 4

11/13/24 VENOM 39

11/13/24 VENOM WAR: WOLVERINE 3

11/13/24 VENOM WAR: DEADPOOL 3

11/20/24 VENOM WAR: LETHAL PROTECTORS 3

11/20/24 VENOM WAR: IT'S JEFF 1

11/27/24 VENOM WAR 5

NEXT

THE WICKED WEB-SLINGERS WANT YOUR ***BRAINS***--
I MEAN, YOUR ***LETTERS!*** SEND YOUR NOTES TO
SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM. BE SURE
TO MARK THEM "OKAY TO PRINT"!

VENOM WAR

VENOM WAR #3

STREET BALL

WITH DEADPOOL AND WOLVERINE!

NORTH
KOBLISH
ROSENBERG
SABINO

HEY LOOK, IT'S DEADPOOL AND WOLVERINE!

HEY LOOK, IT'S SOME RANDOM KIDS!

YOU WANNA TRY PLAYING HOOPS AGAINST SOME REAL SUPER HEROES?

WOW! THAT'D BE AMAZING!

LET'S SHOW THEM HOW IT'S DONE.

SMAK!

I GUESS I ASSUMED I'D BE BETTER AT THIS.

WHAT A DISAPPOINTMENT!

I LIKE HIM LESS NOW.

NOW IT'S MY TURN, DEADPOOL!

AW FRIG.

WEAPON X? MORE LIKE WEAPON SUX.

HIS HEALING FACTOR IS USELESS AGAINST THAT NUCLEAR BURN.

THIS REALLY HAPPENED TO US. DEADPOOL AND WOLVERINE DIDN'T KNOW THAT MY MOM IS LOADED AND THAT ADS IN COMIC BOOKS ARE *SURPRISINGLY AFFORDABLE.*

DEADPOOL CAN'T DUNK. LIKE, *AT ALL.* TELL YOUR FRIENDS.

IT'S HONESTLY HILARIOUS. ADD IT TO HIS WIKIPEDIA PAGE.

WE THOUGHT WE'D BE GOOD AT BASKETBALL BECAUSE WE'RE GOOD AT OTHER THINGS, BUT WE AREN'T.

LET'S GO. I'VE BEEN HUMILIATED IN FRONT OF WAY TOO MANY CHILDREN. *AGAIN.*

WE CAN'T COME BACK HERE.

BASKETBALL:
IT'S A TOTALLY DIFFERENT SKILL SET THAN FIGHTING SUPER VILLAINS!

VENOM HORSE, PART 2
BY EWING, NIETO, D'ARMATA & MAHER.

EGAD! VENOM HORSE IS DISRUPTING THE OPERA!

IN *UNDERSTANDING COMICS*, SCOTT MCCLOUD POSITS THAT THE CREATION OF ANY WORK OF ART FOLLOWS *SIX ESSENTIAL STEPS.*

FIRST, THE IMPULSE BEHIND THE WORK, THAT GIVES THE WORK ITS PURPOSE-- THE *IDEA.*

SECOND, THE *FORM* THIS IDEA WILL TAKE. THE CHOICE OF MEDIUM--BOOK, FILM, PAINTING, SCULPTURE... *COMICS.*

THIRD COMES *IDIOM*--CHOOSING THE PARTICULAR SCHOOL OF ART OR GENRE OF FICTION.

FOURTH, *STRUCTURE*--THE COMPOSITION. WHAT THE ARTIST INCLUDES, WHAT THEY LEAVE OUT.

THE FIFTH STEP IS *CRAFT.* THE PRACTICAL WORK OF CONSTRUCTION AND PROBLEM-SOLVING. THE GUTS OF THE PIECE.

FINALLY, STEP SIX--THE *SURFACE.* THE GLOSSY FINISH, THE DETAILS THE AUDIENCE FIRST NOTICES.

MCCLOUD IMPLIES A CYCLE OF APPRECIATION BREEDING *NEW ART,* WITH EACH NEW ARTIST MOVING BACK THROUGH THE SIX STEPS AS THEY GROW IN UNDERSTANDING.

SOME ART, OF COURSE, NEVER MOVES BEYOND THAT SHINY, MEANINGLESS SURFACE.

DID I MENTION THAT I'M *VENOM HORSE?*

LEAVE US ALONE, VENOM HORSE!